



# City of Seattle

Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

## Office of the Mayor

April 6, 2004

Honorable Jan Drago  
President  
Seattle City Council  
City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Dear Council President Drago:

In November 2002, Seattle voters demonstrated their support for improving transportation in our City when they approved the funding and authority to develop a monorail transit system. The attached proposed Council Bill approves the alignment, station locations, and maintenance base location for the Seattle Monorail Project's Green Line monorail transit system in the City of Seattle as part of the overall permitting system that the City has established for the project. The Board of the Seattle Monorail Project has approved this alignment after completing a Final Environmental Impact Statement and an extensive public involvement process. I recommend approval of this alignment because of its excellent potential to be successfully integrated into the City's transportation system and urban environment. In the coming weeks, I plan to forward additional legislation authorizing a Transit Way Agreement and Seattle Center Agreement between the City and the Seattle Monorail Project that will allow this project to move forward.

The City established the planning framework for the Green Line through adoption of the Comprehensive Plan, which calls for enhanced transit service to and between urban centers, villages, and industrial centers. The City's Intermediate Capacity Transit study identified the Green Line corridor as a priority corridor for enhanced transit service.

The City has worked cooperatively with Seattle Monorail Project throughout the alignment planning and environmental review process for the Green Line, as provided for in the agreement for intergovernmental cooperation authorized by the Council in April, 2003. In addition, the Monorail Review Panel of the Seattle Design Commission has reviewed the alignment and preliminary design concepts, and has been generally supportive of the alignment while providing numerous design recommendations that can be addressed through subsequent agreements and permitting processes.

The City's approval of the basic configuration of the monorail system is an important step toward improving transportation in Seattle. Thank you for your consideration of this legislation. Should you have questions, please contact Ethan Melone of the Seattle Department of Transportation at 684-8066.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Nickels', written over the printed name and title.

GREG NICKELS  
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Honorable Members of the Seattle City Council

600 Fourth Avenue, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Seattle, WA 98104-8154

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